



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
2000 NAVY PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

OPNAVINST 10520.1A  
DNS-3  
2 Oct 2013

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 10520.1A

Subj: CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS POLICY REGARDING USE OF THE  
U.S. NAVY FLAG, BATTLE STREAMERS, U.S. NAVY INFANTRY  
BATTALION FLAG AND THE FIRST NAVY JACK

Ref: (a) E.O. 10812  
(b) U.S. Navy Regulations 1990, Chapter 12, Section 8  
(c) CNO WASHINGTON DC 301329Z AUG 02 (NAVADMIN 305/02)  
(d) SECNAVINST 1650.1H  
(e) NTP-13B (Flags, Pennants and Customs)

1. Purpose. To provide information concerning procurement and use of the U.S. Navy flag, battle streamers, the U.S. Navy Infantry Battalion flag and the first Navy Jack, per references (a) through (e). This instruction is being reissued with a new date, updated version and signature authority to meet Chief of Naval Operations' (CNO) age requirement for Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) instructions.

2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 10520.1.

3. Background

a. U.S. Navy Flag

(1) Unlike the national ensign, commission pennant, union jack, and admiral's broad pennant, which fly from gaff, mast, or staff aboard naval vessels, the flag of the United States Navy is reserved for display purposes and is carried by an honor guard on ceremonial occasions.

(2) A detailed history, policy and eligibility guidance, list of battle streamers, their accessories, and stock number information can be found at the Navy Awards Web site:  
<https://awards.navy.mil>.

b. U.S. Navy Infantry Battalion Flag. The official Navy flag, truly representative of the Navy's operating forces at sea, was authorized by reference (a). However, continued use of the Navy Infantry Battalion flag is authorized as directed in paragraph 4a.

c. First Navy Jack. Reference (b) directs use of the Union Jack aboard Navy ships. However, reference (c) directs display of the First Navy Jack in lieu of the Union Jack for all U.S. Navy ships during the global war on terrorism.

4. Policy. The U.S. Navy flag and battle streamers are for official Navy use only and shall not be made available to civilian groups, organizations, or individuals, except as provided for in paragraph 5c. Use of the U.S. Navy Infantry Battalion flag is as follows:

a. The U.S. Navy Infantry Battalion flag shall be used only as organization colors for ships' landing party battalions, for battalion organizations of Navy activities, and for inactive Navy Reserve units.

b. When participating independently in operations, ceremonies, or parades, battalions or units may carry their own organization colors. Navy and Navy Reserve units, which use the U.S. Navy Infantry Battalion flag as organization colors, may display their battalion name and location on the Navy Infantry Battalion flag as authorized by reference (d).

5. Action

a. Navy and Navy Reserve activities or individual reserve units which require the U.S. Navy flag or the U.S. Navy Infantry Battalion flag for official use may obtain it by submitting requisitions through normal supply channels.

b. Upon relief of officials listed below, the U.S. Navy flag with battle streamers may be provided, as follows:

(1) Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV)

(2) CNO

c. Should they donate their flag and streamers to other activities, an appropriate dedication plaque or plate will be provided with the flag and streamers. A parchment certificate bearing a facsimile of the Navy flag with battle streamers will be presented to the donor.

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6. Records Management. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of media and format, shall be managed per SECNAV Manual 5210.1 of January 2012.



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